

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Koichi HASHIMOTO

Serial No. Not yet assigned

Filed: February 6, 2004

Title: **HYBRID STENCIL PRINTING APPARATUS, METHOD FOR CONTROLLING  
HYBRID STENCIL PRINTING APPARATUS AND COMPUTER-READABLE  
RECORDING MEDIUM RECORDING PROGRAM FOR THE SAME**

(Divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/983,345, filed  
October 24, 2001.)

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of the above-captioned  
patent application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-4, 7-9, and 12-14 in the above-  
captioned application without any prejudice or disclaimer to the  
subject matter expressed therein. Further, please amend the  
claims as shown in Attachment A.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please insert on page 1, line 5, after the title and before  
the "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" the paragraph shown in  
Attachment B.